

purpose to defeat an expression of the popular will in the mode prescribed by the constitution.

It now appears that the possibility that a President would knowingly sign legislation that did not pass Congress is no longer "too remote to be seriously considered." In fact, this is exactly what appears to have happened when President Bush signed the Reconciliation Act.

To learn more about this matter, I wrote the President's chief of staff, Andrew Card, on March 15, seeking information on the President's knowledge of the bill's constitutional infirmity. When the Wall Street Journal reported on March 22 that Speaker HASTERT's office had informed the White House of the problems with the legislation, I joined Democratic Leader NANCY PELOSI in sending a second letter to the White House. Unfortunately, there has been no White House response.

I therefore urge my colleagues to support the resolution of inquiry I am introducing today. The American public deserves a detailed explanation of what went wrong with the enactment of S. 1932—and assurance that government leaders will not ignore basic constitutional requirements regarding the legislative process.

IN RECOGNITION OF RABBI DR. H.
JOSEPH SIMCKES

HON. GARY L. ACKERMAN

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 30, 2006

Mr. ACKERMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of Rabbi Dr. H. Joseph Simckes, who has just retired after 29 years of service to the Hollis Hills Jewish Center.

As the spiritual leader of the Hollis Hills Jewish Center, Rabbi Simckes' dedication and compassion to our community has been unparalleled. I have had the great honor of knowing this intelligent, wise and kind-hearted individual, both on a personal level and as an advocate for the numerous important issues, and, particularly, support for the state of Israel, that we have worked on together.

Throughout his extraordinary career, Rabbi Simckes has been deeply and profoundly involved in the education of Jewish youth. His strong support of Jewish education was evident early in his career through his role in helping to found the first Solomon Schechter Day School in Boston. Rabbi Simckes has also led over 40 student-groups on tours throughout Israel. I have seen first hand the importance Rabbi Simckes places on education through the important work that he has done helping sculpt today's Jewish curriculum and the vast knowledge and rigor that he displays in his moving sermons. The wisdom he has shared both inside and outside of his congregation has improved and enriched the lives of thousands in the community.

Rabbi Simckes is also a trained therapist, whose compassion and guidance have comforted both old and young. Rabbi Simckes has been a pillar of strength throughout his tenure counseling, comforting, and sharing in the pain and joy of the whole community.

Rabbi Simckes has stood with the Queens Jewish Community during our most important life-cycle moments: births, bar-mitzvahs, wed-

dings, and, of course, deaths as well. Always warm, always accessible, Rabbi Simckes has guided our community as pastor and friend.

Our community has been blessed to have such a devoted and passionate leader. Though Rabbi Simckes will be missed his role as congressional rabbi, his spirit and convictions will remain as a permanent legacy for the community. The importance he placed on learning, and his deep devotion to the Jewish people and their faith, have inspired us all, and we look forward to his continued involvement in our lives.

To Chana Simckes, on behalf of the entire community, I want to thank you for sharing your husband to us so readily and for so long. Without your love and support neither he, nor we, could have made it so far, and for so long, together.

Mr. Speaker, I ask all my colleagues in the House to join me in recognizing my leader, my pastor, my guide, and my friend, Rabbi Dr. H. Joseph Simckes for his 29 years of service to the Hollis Hills Jewish Center. We send him our very best wishes in his years of well-earned retirement.

COMMENDING HAITI FOR HOLDING
DEMOCRATIC ELECTIONS

SPEECH OF

HON. ALCEE L. HASTINGS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 28, 2006

Mr. HASTINGS of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the people of the Republic of Haiti for holding successful democratic elections on February 7, 2006. I would also like to congratulate their chosen successor, Mr. Rene Préval.

I commend the people of Haiti for their active commitment to and unbridled belief in democracy. On such an auspicious occasion, the best way we can honor the Republic of Haiti is by continuing to lend our support through economic and humanitarian policy that encourages development, not dependency.

While elections are the necessary first step towards democracy in Haiti, there still remains a long road ahead. It is crucial that we, the United States, do not continue to perpetuate the legacy of interference and neglect in Haitian affairs.

We must work with the newly elected President of the Republic of Haiti, Rene Préval, and we must work with Haitians in both Haiti and the U.S. to make their dreams of sustained democracy and prosperity a reality.

Several of my distinguished colleagues, myself included, have a significant number of Haitian constituents in our district. It is my sincerest hope that we will work to bring their home country out of the grips of poverty and despair once and for all so that Haiti's rich, yet tumultuous, past will finally evolve into a future of sustained success.

EMERGENCY SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATIONS ACT FOR DEFENSE, THE GLOBAL WAR ON TERROR, AND HURRICANE RECOVERY, 2006

SPEECH OF

HON. CAROLYN C. KILPATRICK

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 16, 2006

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 4939) making emergency supplemental appropriations for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2006, and for other purposes:

Ms. KILPATRICK of Michigan. Mr. Chairman, I would like to use this opportunity to address this House to explain my vote on H.R. 4939, the Emergency War and Hurricane Supplemental Appropriations Act for Fiscal Year 2006, which this chamber considered on March 16, 2006.

Despite my misgivings for the direction of our Iraq policy, I do not believe our troops, who are fighting so bravely, should be penalized for the mistakes in judgment of our civilian military leadership in the White House and the Pentagon. I also believe we need to continue our obligation to the people and states who fell victim to Hurricane Katrina. For these reasons, I supported the passage of H.R. 4929, the Emergency Supplemental Appropriations Act for Fiscal Year 2006.

The funds in this bill will enable our soldiers and marines on the ground to uparmor their vehicles. There should be more outrage from the American public that they were deployed without adequate equipment from the beginning. But they are there, and it is vital that they have the equipment necessary to protect themselves against attack. Moreover, more money is provided in this bill to help our troops detect and destroy improvised explosive devices (IEDs).

Although I disagree with the administration's conduct of the war, I do believe the one way we can bring our troops home sooner is to provide Iraqi security forces with the training and equipment they need to provide for the common defense of their own country and take the fight to the insurgency. Ultimately, the fate of their country will rise and fall on the Iraqis' ability to provide for their own security.

To further help our troops, the money in this bill will take care of the health care needs of their families and cover the projected shortfall in the defense health care account. It also honors the obligation Congress made last year to increase the military death gratuity to \$100,000 from \$12,000 and subsidized life insurance benefits that were increased to \$400,000 for the families of fallen loved ones.

The bill also helps needy families offset the high cost of heating fuel by providing an additional \$750 million for the Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP). Finally, the bill honors what I feel is our country's obligation to help the Gulf Coast region by appropriating \$19.1 billion in disaster relief, community development and levee reconstruction monies.

These programs deserve our support. We cannot turn our backs to protecting

the safety and welfare of troops in harms way or ignore those who have gone homeless as a result of Hurricane Katrina. These people need our help and that is why I voted to support this emergency supplemental appropriations bill.

RETIREMENT OF JUANITA
CONKLING

HON. NICK J. RAHALL II

OF WEST VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 30, 2006

Mr. RAHALL. Mr. Speaker, I want to extend my heartfelt thanks and appreciation to Mrs. Juanita Conkling who, for the past 40 years, has served this esteemed body in the offices of the House Sergeant at Arms and the Chief Administrative Officer. In April of this year, Juanita will officially end her tenure working for this body and her contributions will be remembered for many years to come.

Juanita came to the House of Representatives on May 1, 1965, after working 1 year for the Federal Bureau of Investigation. She came to work initially for the House Sergeant at Arms and, most recently, has been the payroll/benefits administrator in the Office of Members' Services.

Much has changed in this body and on Capitol Hill in the 40 years Juanita has been here. Eight different Presidents, from Lyndon B. Johnson to George W. Bush, have given State of the Union addresses before Joint Sessions of Congress. Twenty Congresses have come and gone, along with countless Members and staff. All the while, Juanita has remained consistent, doing her job serving the Members of this body.

Juanita has had the responsibility of ensuring that the Members of Congress were paid on time each month. She has advised Members, new and old, on their ongoing options relative to their compensation and benefits. And she has been a friend to countless Members and their families.

I am proud to call myself a friend of Juanita Conkling. And on the occasion of her retirement after 40 years of service to the U.S. House of Representatives I want to extend my deepest appreciation for her friendship and outstanding contributions to this body. May she have many wonderful and exciting years ahead fulfilling her retirement dreams.

IN TRIBUTE TO LORRAINE CARTER

HON. GWEN MOORE

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 30, 2006

Ms. MOORE of Wisconsin. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize a compassionate leader and true visionary from the Fourth Congressional District, Lorraine Carter. For over 35 years, Mrs. Carter has operated the VE Carter Child Development Center, and has served as forceful advocate for low-income children and their families.

Mrs. Carter came to Milwaukee from Nebraska in 1958, and worked as a special-education teacher before starting the VE Carter Child Development Center. Inspired by her

own upbringing, she strove to provide a loving, stable and supportive environment for the young children she encountered in Milwaukee. VE Carter Child Development Center, one of the first childcare centers owned and operated by an African-American woman in Milwaukee, has grown into a city institution, with five centers that serve almost 500 children and employ over 150 workers.

Mrs. Carter advocated for quality childcare for low-income children long before its connection to lifelong success was widely acknowledged. Her work with children has taken her deeply into the lives of the families she serves. She has a passion for working with single mothers, helping them develop stable home lives for their children and assisting them in identifying and overcoming obstacles to their own success. In addition to VE Carter Child Development Center, she also operates a social service agency that serves nonviolent offenders—many of them parents—assisting them with finding employment and supporting their families and communities.

Mrs. Carter's leadership extends throughout the State, not only as an accomplished and articulate childcare advocate, but also as an advocate of education more generally. She has served on the board of the Wisconsin Technical College System, working to ensure that education and skills development continue to be accessible to low-income parents, helping them move out of poverty and create a better life for their children.

Mr. Speaker, for all these reasons and many more, I am honored to have this opportunity to pay tribute to Mrs. Carter's numerous and profound contributions to the Fourth Congressional District. I thank her for her love of children, her commitment to their families, and her visionary leadership in Milwaukee.

TRIBUTE TO THE REVEREND JOSE
EUGENIO HOYOS

HON. JAMES P. MORAN

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 30, 2006

Mr. MORAN of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the Reverend Jose Eugenio Hoyos, a distinguished member of our community who has dedicated his life to serving the less fortunate through his vocation in the Catholic Church.

The Rev. Hoyos began his commitment to exemplary community service over 20 years ago when he was ordained into the priesthood at the Cathedral of St. Pedro in Buga, Colombia. From there he continued his studies at the Catholic Theological Union in Chicago, IL, where he earned his master of divinity.

After completing his studies, he returned to Colombia where he became an associate pastor at the Parish of St. Juan De Avila in Bogotá and taught both philosophy and religion at nearby colleges. He remained in Colombia for several years until he was relocated to Northern Virginia where he is currently serving as director of the Spanish Apostolate for the Diocese of Arlington.

Since arriving in Northern Virginia 16 years ago, Rev. Hoyos has dedicated his life to serving the public community in many different ways. Beginning in 1992, Rev. Hoyos envisioned an organization with the purpose to re-

cruit and organize professionals to assist immigrants as well as the neediest people in the community. He founded Marcelino Pan Y Vino, Inc., a nonprofit organization that has earned worldwide recognition for its work with the National Institutes of Health in assisting those with leukemia, AIDS, cancer, and those in need of an organ transplant. Most recently, his organization raised \$25,000 for Katrina disaster relief in the gulf coast.

Rev. Hoyos is the founder of the radio program called "Catholic Newsletter" and the TV show called "Community and Religion Dose" a program of prayer and faith that is aimed at spreading a positive message to alcoholics, gang members, and the troubled youth. He is also a columnist for various local and international papers that reach the Hispanic community.

Not one to forget his roots, Rev. Hoyos founded and is president of Colombia Integra, an organization that gives Colombians, who have fled their native land, the tools needed to become active members of our society.

Over the years, Rev. Hoyos's deeds have not gone unnoticed by the community he cares so deeply about. He has been recognized as "Hispanic Man of the Year" by the staff of "Diario Nacion" a Washington, DC, newspaper. The Alexandria Police Department named him "True Community Hero." He has been selected as "Washingtonian of the Year" by the Washingtonian Magazine. Last, but not least, Rev. Hoyos was granted the honor to carry the Olympic torch from the Atlanta Olympics through the streets of Arlington.

Mr. Speaker, the Reverend Jose Eugenio Hoyos has been responsible for touching thousands of lives over the course of his career. He is truly a beacon of light putting his faith into action. For his dedication, the people of northern Virginia are genuinely grateful.

IN RECOGNITION OF RABBI DAVID
WISE

HON. GARY L. ACKERMAN

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 30, 2006

Mr. ACKERMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Rabbi David Wise, who in August began his tenure as Rabbi of the Hollis Hills Jewish Center.

A native of Toronto, Ontario, Rabbi Wise grew up as an active member in the educational programs and youth groups of the Conservative movement. He continued his Judaic involvement at the Jewish Theological Seminary in New York, where he received a Masters degree and was ordained a Rabbi. Upon completion of his studies, Rabbi Wise began his rabbinical career at Temple Beth El in Somerset, New Jersey.

Rabbi Wise is tremendously dedicated to his congregation and the surrounding Jewish community. For years, he has worked to help congregants read Torah, haftarah, and to increase their skills as prayer leaders. Rabbi Wise is also active in the synagogue's educational programs, encouraging both children and adults in their exploration of Judaism. With an open door and welcoming smile, Rabbi Wise serves as a friend and mentor to any congregant seeking guidance, as well as